STREAMING METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR

FIBRE CHANNEL NETWORK DEVICES

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

[0091] A system and method are disclosed for processing commands to network target devices through a SCSI router in a Fibre Channel network having a plurality of Fibre Channel hosts. The system and method are implemented in the SCSI router and include receiving a command from one of the plurality of Fibre Channel hosts and, if the command is for a transfer of data larger than a threshold size, streaming the data to the target device. If a preset size memory block is free, a data block is requested from the Fibre Channel host that issued the command. Otherwise, the method of this invention waits to request the data block until the preset size memory block is free. The SCSI router receives the data block and stores the data block in a FIFO queue. The method of this invention repeats until an initial number of data blocks are stored in the FIFO queue. The command and the first data block received are forwarded to the network target device. The target device requests additional data blocks as needed and the SCSI router forwards the data blocks in the FIFO queue until a trigger number of data blocks remain in the FIFO queue. Additional data blocks are requested and received from the Fiber Channel host simultaneously with the forwarding of data blocks to the target device. The target device requests data blocks from the SCSI router until all of the data associated with the command has been transferred.